

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

May 6, 2003

LB 285

because we don't have the money for this year, but do it next year. In essence, I think our responsibility is to raise taxes when we need them and lower them when we...it's feasible to do so. And it will be feasible to lower these rates in the future. This economy will change. It's cyclical and it will. And when it happens there will be a delight in this body at the prospect of lowering taxes. I've been on the floor when we've lowered taxes. It feels good and people are darn ready to do it. They feel pretty good about lowering taxes and, if anything, there's a fight to see who gets the credit, because I've been in a big tussle between the executive branch and this legislative branch for getting credit for lowering taxes. I would just say that we should be as concerned about the out biennium as we are now, which means leave our taxes where they are until we need to change them up or down, and don't make the mistake that we made the last time of holding out the prospect of something being temporary and then not having it temporary and have the egg on your face. It seems to me that we ought to just leave our tax rates, set our tax rates and leave them until we need to change them again. I think that's the best way to go. I think, by the way, it's the honest way to go and I think that's a real virtue here, is to say we need this money for legitimate purposes. We'll lower them when we can, but right now we need this money for good purposes, and I think that's a fair message to say to the public and one that we should be able to live with. I oppose the Redfield amendment. I say that as somebody who's voted for this bill, I suppose because I'm trying to keep it together and keep it successful.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: I'm a yes vote on this bill and I want us to keep it a yes vote, and keep it in a bill that we can get 25 votes for and pass. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Jones, on the Redfield amendment to the committee amendments to LB 285.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President and members of the body, I want to stand up and talk about this just a little bit, because LB 1085 was a bill that I opposed a year ago and...to increase taxes and